Claims

What is claimed:

1.   A system for transferring proprietary information through a communications pipe between at least a first remote computer system and at least a PSD using a local client as a communications host for said PSD, said system comprising:

at least one network, wherein said network includes means for functionally connecting at least one local client with said at least one first remote computer system;

said at least one local client further comprising means for transferring incoming data and applications sent from a first remote computer system through said pipe to said PSD and wherein said local client is functionally connected to said PSD and said network and is functionally communicating through said pipe with said remote computer system and said PSD;

said at least one PSD further comprising at least one embedded PSD application, a microprocessor, a runtime environment and at least one internal memory location, wherein said embedded application receives proprietary information through said pipe and stores said information in said internal memory location and wherein said PSD is functionally connected to said client and is functionally communicating with said client and said first remote computer system through said communications pipe; and

said at least one first remote computer system further comprising means for transferring said proprietary information from a storage location through said communications pipe, wherein said first remote computer system is functionally connected to said network and is functionally communicating with said client and said PSD through said communications pipe.

2.   The system according to claim 1, further comprising cryptography means for decrypting encrypted said incoming proprietary information and encrypting outgoing responses communicated through said communications pipe.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein said memory location is an open location.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein said memory location is a secure location.

5. The system according to claim 1, further comprising receiving, processing and routing means for transferring said proprietary information received over said network from at least one subsequent remote computer system through said communications pipe to said PSD.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein said storage location is local to said first remote computer system.

7. The system according to claim 1, wherein said storage location is local to at least one subsequent remote computer system.

8. The system according to claim 1, further comprising means for functionally connecting said first remote computer system with at least one subsequent remote computer system.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein said subsequent remote computer system is functionally connected to said network and is functionally communicating with said first remote computer system using said network.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein said communications pipe employs an open communications protocol.

11. The system according to claim 1, wherein said communications pipe employs a secure communications protocol.

12. A method for transferring proprietary information through a communications pipe between at least a first remote computer system and at least a PSD using a local client as a communications host for said PSD, said method comprising:

establishing a communications pipe between said PSD and said first remote computer system over at least one network and using said client as a communications host for said PSD,

5   retrieving said proprietary information from a storage location by said first remote computer system,

processing said proprietary information by said first remote computer system,

10   transmitting said proprietary information through said communications pipe to said PSD,

receiving said proprietary information through said communications pipe from said first remote computer system by said PSD, and

15   storing said proprietary information in a memory location inside said PSD, using at least one embedded internal algorithm.

13.   The method according to claim 12, further comprising retrieving said proprietary

20   information from a local storage location.

14.   The method according to claim 12, further comprising retrieving said proprietary information from a remote storage location.

25   15.   The method according to claim 12, further comprising establishing said communications pipe using an open communications protocol.

16.   The method according to claim 12, further comprising establishing said communications pipe using a secure communications protocol.

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17.   A method for transferring proprietary information through a communications pipe between at least a first remote computer system and at least a PSD using a local client as a communications host for said PSD, said method comprising:

establishing a communications pipe between said PSD and said first remote computer system over at least one first network and using said client as a communications host for said PSD,

5   establishing communications between said first remote computer system and a subsequent remote computer system over at least one second network,

transmitting said proprietary information over said at least one second network by said at least one subsequent remote computer system,

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receiving said proprietary information sent over said at least one second network by said at least one subsequent remote computer system,

processing said proprietary information by said first remote computer system,

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transmitting said proprietary information through said communications pipe to said PSD,

receiving said proprietary information through said communications pipe from
20   said first remote computer system by said PSD, and

storing said proprietary information in a memory location inside said PSD, using at least one embedded internal algorithm.

25   18.   The method according to claim 17, further comprising establishing said communications pipe using an open communications protocol.

19.   The method according to claim 17, further comprising establishing said communications pipe using a secure communications protocol.

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20.   The method according to claim 17, further comprising establishing said communications using an open communications protocol.

21.   The method according to claim 17, further comprising establishing said
35   communications using a secure communications protocol.

22. The method according to claim 12 or claim 17, further comprising;

encrypting said proprietary information by said first remote computer system prior to transmitting said proprietary information through said communications pipe, and

decrypting said encrypted proprietary information after receiving said proprietary information through said communications pipe by said PSD.

23. The method according to claim 22 further comprising;

encrypting said proprietary information by said subsequent remote computer system prior to transmitting said proprietary information over said communications network, and

decrypting said encrypted proprietary information after receiving said proprietary information over said network by said first remote computer system.